

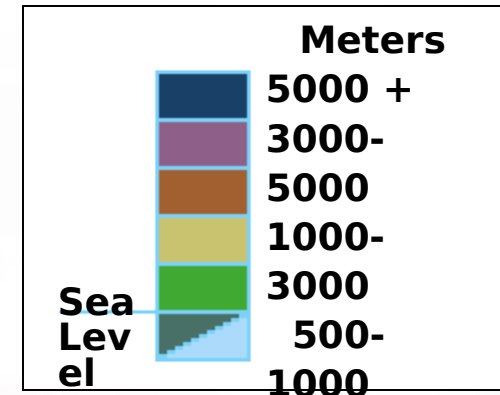
# Liberia



# Liberia: Environmental Issues

- Topography
- Climate

**Climate**  
tropical; hot, humid; dry winters with hot days and cool to cold nights; wet, cloudy summers with frequent heavy showers



**Terrain:** mostly flat to rolling coastal plains rising to rolling plateau and low mountains in northeast

**lowest point:** Atlantic Ocean 0 m  
**highest point:** Mount Wuteve 1,380 m

# Liberia: Environmental Issues

- Air
  - Low risk
  - Some pollution near specific industrial and urban areas.
- Soil
  - Low risk but should be avoided when possible.
  - Soil contamination near industrial facilities and waste disposal sites.
  - Significant exposure unlikely in the absence of wind, active digging, or leakage into ground water.

# **Liberia: Environmental Issues**

- Food
  - Food may also be contaminated with industrial particulates, chemicals from soil, pesticides, fertilizers, and fecal pathogens.
- Water
  - Water contaminated with raw sewage and microbes
  - Water sources near diamond mines may be contaminated with mercury and arsenic.

# **Liberia: Environmental Issues**

- Greatest short-term environmental health risks
  - Water contaminated with raw sewage
  - Runoff containing fecal pathogens,



# Liberia: Diseases of Operational Importance

- **Highest risk** country
- Diseases of greatest risk
  - Food and Waterborne Diseases: Bacterial diarrhea, Hepatitis A, Protozoal diarrhea and Typhoid/paratyphoid fever
  - Vector-borne Diseases: Malaria and Yellow fever.
  - Sexually Transmitted Diseases: HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B.
  - Soil Contact Diseases: Lassa Fever
  - Water-contact Diseases: Schistosomiasis

# **Liberia: Diseases of Operational Importance**

- Diseases of potential risk
  - Food and waterborne Diseases: Brucellosis, Cholera, Hepatitis E
  - Vector-borne Diseases: Boutonneuse fever (Mediterranean spotted fever), Chikungunya, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, Dengue fever, Leishmaniasis, Rift Valley fever, Sindbis (Ockelbo) virus, Gambiense trypanosomiasis (African), Murine typhus (flea-borne) and West Nile fever
  - Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Gonorrhea and Chlamydia.
  - Water-contact Diseases: Leptospirosis
  - Respiratory Diseases: Meningococcal meningitis and Tuberculosis
  - Animal-contact: Anthrax, Q-Fever and Rabies
  - Person to Person: Ebola hemorrhagic fever